

**BEFORE THE MINNESOTA  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES REGULATORY BOARD**

In the Matter of  
Trent A. Adams, EMT-B  
Certificate Number: 931242

**FINDINGS OF FACT,  
CONCLUSIONS,  
AND FINAL ORDER**

On October 9, 2007, the Complaint Review Panel ("Panel") of the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board ("Board") initiated the above-entitled proceeding against Trent A. Adams, EMT-B ("Respondent"), by service of a Notice of Petition and Petition to Suspend Certification.

The matter came on for consideration by the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivision 5(b) (2006), at a regularly scheduled meeting on November 15, 2007, convened in Conference Room A (fourth floor), University Park Plaza, 2829 University Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414.

Karen B. Andrews, Assistant Attorney General, appeared and presented oral argument on behalf of the Panel. Respondent was not present or otherwise represented at the meeting. Nathan W. Hart, Assistant Attorney General, was present as legal advisor to the Board.

The following members of the Board were present: James Rieber, Chair; Brenda Brown; Lori Brown; Bonnie Engen, R.N.; Shanna Hanson; Susan Jacobson; Robert Jensen; Lee Pyles, M.D.; Mark Schoenbaum; Marlys Tanner; and Mari Thomas, M.D. As members of the Panel, Dawn Bidwell; Kory Kaye, M.D.; Kevin Miller; and Katherine Burke Moore did not participate in deliberations or vote in the matter.

Based on the record and the proceedings herein, the Board makes the following:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

1. In January 2006, the Board received a report that Respondent applied to the Fargo-Moorhead Ambulance EMT-Paramedic Training Program in December 2005. On his application, Respondent failed to report a history of felony convictions and various misdemeanors. The training program did not accept his application.

2. On February 17, 2006, Respondent was on a call and attempted to administer Dextrose ("D50") intravenously to a patient who was having a possible diabetic reaction. Respondent was informed by his coworker ("coworker #1") that they could not administer D50 because they did not have authorization to do so. Respondent stated he had clearance to administer D50 from the Medical Director. Respondent became angry and used foul language. Another EMT was called to assist the patient, without administering D50. The Medical Director later reported that he did not authorize Respondent to use D50 intravenously on an ambulance call.

3. The following weekend, Respondent continually attempted to contact coworker #1 while she was off duty and showed up at her house. She asked him to leave. Respondent then called and stated that he was going to "get drunk and kill some people." The following Monday, on February 20, 2006, coworker #1 stated she did not want to work with Respondent and found a replacement for her shift. Respondent continued to contact her via telephone and electronic communications and appeared at her parents' home and place of business. Respondent began sending coworker #1 suicidal threats via electronic messages. Coworker #1 contacted law enforcement and filed a Restraining Order. Law enforcement went to Respondent's home and transported him to St. Mary's Hospital for an evaluation. The physician did not feel that there was enough evidence to place Respondent on a 72-hour hold and

released him, telling him not to contact coworker #1. That afternoon, Respondent continued to send text messages to coworker #1. When officers arrived to arrest Respondent, he was not there. A check revealed prior convictions of felony domestic assault, felony theft, and domestic violence. Also, the report revealed that Respondent did not have a valid driver's license.

4. On February 21, 2006, Respondent's employment was terminated for reporting on his application that he had a valid driver's license, when in fact he did not.

5. On June 27, 2007, Respondent received a Notice of Conference, scheduling a conference for July 16, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. Respondent failed to appear before the Panel and provided no prior notice that he would not be present. Further, Respondent failed to provide any written response to the allegations contained in the Notice.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

1. The Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Minnesota Statutes sections 144E.28, subdivision 5, and 144E.30 (2006).

2. Respondent was given timely and proper notice of the November 15, 2007, hearing before the Board and of his right under Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivision 5(b), to request a contested case hearing to be conducted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes chapter 14.

3. The Panel has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes section 144E.30, subdivision 3, by failing to cooperate with a Board investigation.

4. The Panel has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivision 5(2), in that he misrepresented or falsified information on an application form for certification.

5. The Panel has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivision 5(4), in that he is actually or potentially unable to provide emergency medical services with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness, use of alcohol, drugs, chemicals, or any other material, or as a result of any mental or physical condition.

6. The Panel has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivision 5(5), in that he engaged in unethical conduct including, but not limited to, conduct likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public or demonstrated a willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare, or safety of the public.

7. The Panel has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent has violated Minnesota Statutes section 144E.101, subdivision 10, in that he drove an ambulance without possessing a current driver's license issued by any state.

8. As a result of the violations set forth above and Respondent's failure to request a contested case hearing within 30 days of receipt of notice of his right to do so or at any time, the Board has the authority without further proceedings to take disciplinary action against Respondent's EMT-B certification. *See* Minn. Stat. § 144E.28, subds. 4 and 5.

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions, the Board issues the following:

### **ORDER**

1. Respondent's EMT-B certificate is **SUSPENDED**, effective immediately. At no time subsequent to the date of this Order shall Respondent engage in any act in Minnesota which constitutes practice as an emergency medical technician-basic as defined in Minnesota Statutes sections 144E.001 and 144E.28, nor shall he in any manner represent or hold himself out as being authorized to so practice.

2. Not later than 7 (seven) days from the date of this Order, Respondent shall surrender and cause the Board to receive his current EMT-B certificate.

3. Respondent may apply to the Board for reinstatement of his certification as an EMT-B not earlier than 6 (six) months from the date of this Order. Any such application shall be accompanied by:

- a. The results of a mental health evaluation at Respondent's expense;
- b. Evidence that Respondent has successfully completed or is successfully participating in any and all treatment indicated by the evaluation;
- c. Evidence of compliance with all applicable continuing education or training requirements under Minnesota Statutes section 144E.28, subdivisions 7 and 8; and
- d. Evidence that Respondent possesses a valid driver's license.

4. Respondent shall appear before the Panel to review any application for reinstatement submitted pursuant to paragraph 3. The burden of proof shall be on Respondent to demonstrate that he is able to provide emergency medical services in a fit and competent manner without risk of harm to the public. The Board reserves the right to approve an application for reinstatement only upon the imposition of conditions and limitations which the Board deems necessary to ensure public protection. Such conditions and limitations may include, but need not be limited to, restricted duties and practice supervision.

5. This Order is a public document.

The foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order constitute the decision of the Board in this matter.

Dated this 3 day of December, 2007.

MINNESOTA EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES REGULATORY BOARD

By: 

JAMES RIEBER  
Board Chair

AG: #1880426-v1